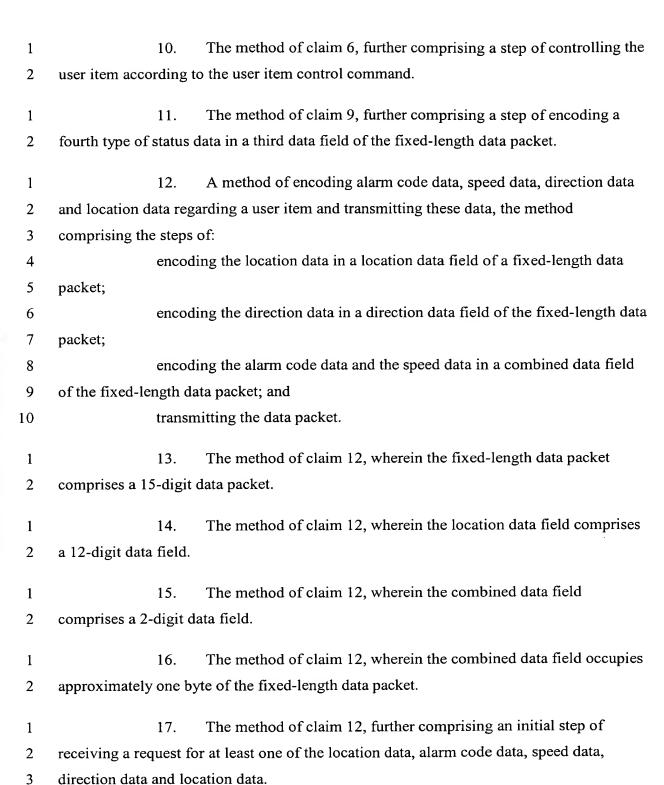
WE CLAIM:

	1.	A method of providing status data regarding a user item, the
method comp	orising	the steps of:
	obta	ining a first type of status data, a second type of status data and a third
type of status	data;	
	enco	ding the first type of status data in a first data field of a fixed-length
data packet;		
	enco	ding the second type of status data and the third type of status data in
a second data	a field (of the fixed-length data packet; and
	trans	smitting the data packet.
	2.	The method of claim 1, wherein the first type of status data
comprises lo	cation	data.
	3.	The method of claim 1, wherein the fixed-length data packet is a
15-digit data	packet	
	4.	The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the second type of
status data ar	nd the t	hird type of status data comprises alarm status data.
	5.	The method of claim 1, further comprising an initial step of
receiving a u	ser's re	equest for at least one of the first, second and third types of status data
	6.	The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of receiving a
user item cor		
	7.	The method of claim 1, wherein the second data field occupies
approximatel		byte of the fixed-length data packet.
	8.	The method of claim 3, wherein the second data field is a two-digit
data field.	0.	The method of claim 5, wherein the second data hera is a two digit
	0	The mostle defection 2 whoming the first type of status data
	9.	The method of claim 3, wherein the first type of status data
-		data and wherein the first data field occupies 12 digits of the fixed-
length data p	acket.	



1 18. The method of claim 12, further comprising a step of receiving a

2 user item control command.

1	19. The method of claim 18, further comprising a step of controlling		
2	the user item according to the user item control command.		
1	20. A method for automatically providing status data regarding a user		
2	item, the method comprising the steps of:		
3	receiving a downstream data packet, the downstream data packet		
4	comprising a downstream message code;		
5	decoding the downstream message code to determine requested status		
6	data;		
7	obtaining at least a portion of the requested status data, the portion		
8	comprising a plurality of data types;		
9	encoding the portion in an upstream data packet, the upstream data packet		
10	comprising a plurality of content fields including at least one content field which		
11	comprises a second plurality of data types; and		
12	transmitting the upstream data packet.		
1	21. The method of claim 20, wherein the upstream data packet		
2	comprises a fixed-length data packet.		
2	comprises a fixed-length data packet.		
1	22. The method of claim 20, wherein the upstream data packet		
2	comprises a 15-digit data packet.		
	22 The weeth of a falsim 20 subgrain and or more content fields		
1	23. The method of claim 20, wherein one or more content fields		
2	comprise a location data field.		
1	24. The method of claim 20, wherein one or more content fields		
2	comprise an alarm data field.		
1	25. The method of claim 20, wherein the content field which comprises		
2	a second plurality of data types occupies approximately one byte of the upstream data		
3	packet.		
1	26. The method of claim 20, further comprising a step of receiving a		
2	user item control command		

1	27. The method of claim 22, wherein the content field which comprise		
2	a second plurality of data types occupies two digits of the upstream data packet.		
1	28. The method of claim 23, wherein the location data field comprises		
2	a 12-digit data field.		
,	The weekle defeloing 26 fouther comprising a group of controlling		
1	29. The method of claim 26, further comprising a step of controlling the user item according to the user item control command.		
2	the user item according to the user item control command.		
1	30. A method of notifying a user of an occurrence of an event		
2	associated with a user item, the method comprising the steps of:		
3	receiving a set of notification instructions;		
4	automatically detecting the occurrence of the event;		
5	encoding a data packet with event data, the data packet comprising a		
6	plurality of content fields, wherein at least one content field comprises a plurality of event		
7	data types;		
8	transmitting the data packet over a communication link to an automated		
9	network operations center;		
10	receiving the data packet at the automated network operations center;		
11	decoding the data packet;		
12	making an automatic determination, based in part upon the decoded event		
13	data and upon the set of notification instructions, whether the user should be notified of		
14	the event; and		
15	automatically notifying the user of the event if the determination is that the		
16	user should be notified.		
1	31. The method of claim 30, wherein the event corresponds to a		
1 2	condition of the user item.		
2	condition of the user item.		
1	32. The method of claim 30, wherein the detecting step further		
2	comprises the step of polling the user item.		
1	33. The method of claim 30, wherein the detecting step is responsive to		
1 2	33. The method of claim 30, wherein the detecting step is responsive to		
/.	(CIVALUAN).		

1	34.	The method of claim 30, wherein the set of notification instructions	
2	is input to the automated network operations center.		
1	35.	The method of claim 30, wherein the set of notification instructions	
2	comprises a notification	on sequence.	
_	••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	,	
1	36.	The method of claim 30, wherein the set of notification instructions	
2	comprises the selection	n of at least one of a plurality of notification devices.	
1	37.	The method of claim 30, wherein the detecting step comprises the	
2		item location information from a GPS receiver.	
2	step of receiving user	item location mornation from a G15 receiver.	
1	38.	The method of claim 30, wherein the automatic notification step	
2	further comprises the	step of providing a user item location.	
1	39.	The method of claim 30, further comprising a step of automatically	
2	performing an action u	upon the user item in response to the occurrence of the event,	
3	wherein the step of au	tomatically performing the action is controlled by the automated	
4	network operations ce	nter.	
1	40.	The method of claim 30, further comprising a step of receiving a	
2	user item control com	mand.	
1	41.	The method of claim 30, wherein the content field which comprises	
2	a plurality of event da	ta types occupies approximately one byte of the data packet.	
1	42.	The method of claim 30, wherein the content field which comprises	
		ta types occupies two digits of the data packet.	
2	a plurality of event da	ta types occupies two digits of the data packet.	
1	43.	The method of claim 31, wherein the user item is selected from the	
2	group consisting of ve	chicles, residential property, commercial property, and personal	
3	items.		
1	44.	The method of claim 34, wherein the inputting step is performed	
2	via a public information	on network.	

The method of claim 34, wherein the inputting step is performed

2 via a telephone. 21329038.1/22962-7005

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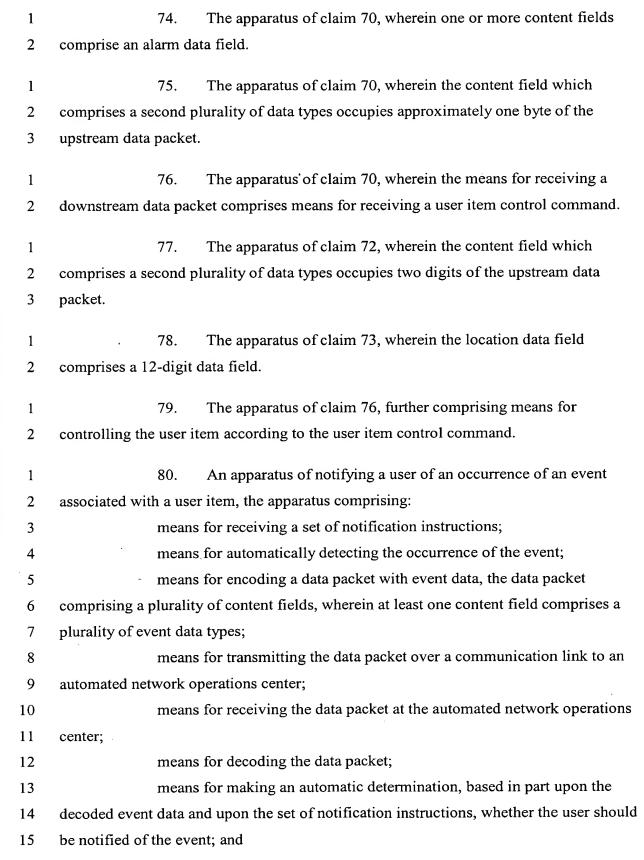
45.

1		46.	The method of claim 34, wherein the inputting step is performed
2	via a keypad o	correspo	onding to the telephone.
1		47.	The method of claim 34, wherein the inputting step is performed
2	via a telephon		ing voice input and wherein the automated network operations center
3	comprises a voice recognition system.		
	comprises a v	0100 100	
1		48.	The method of claim 36, wherein the plurality of notification
2	devices is sele	ected fro	om the group consisting of facsimile machines, telephones, pagers,
3	electronic mail, and a public information network interface.		
1		49.	The method of claim 40, further comprising a step of controlling
	the near item		ng to the user item control command.
2	the user item	accordii	ing to the user item control command.
1		50.	The method of claim 42, wherein the public information network is
2	the Internet.		
		7.1	A C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
1		51.	An apparatus for providing status data regarding a user item, the
2	apparatus con	-	
3			for obtaining a first type of status data, a second type of status data
4	and a third type of status data;		
5		means	for encoding the first type of status data in a first data field of a
6	fixed-length data packet and for encoding the second type of status data and the third type		
7	of status data in a second data field of the fixed-length data packet; and		
8		means	for transmitting the data packet.
4		50	TIL
1		52.	The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the first type of status data
2	comprises loc	ation da	ata.
1	·	53.	The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the fixed-length data packet is
2	a 15-digit data	a packet	t.

- 1 54. The apparatus of claim 51, wherein at least one of the second type 2 of status data and the third type of status data comprises alarm status data.
- 1 55. The apparatus of claim 51, further comprising means for receiving 2 a user's request for at least one of the first, second and third types of status data.
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	1	56. The apparatus of claim 51, further comprising means for receiving						
	2	a user item control command.						
	1	57. The apparatus of claim 51, wherein the second data field occupies						
	2	approximately one byte of the fixed-length data packet.						
	1	58. The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the second data field is a two-						
	2	digit data field.						
	1	59. The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the first type of status data						
	2	comprises location data and wherein the first data field occupies 12 digits of the fixed-						
	3	length data packet.						
	1	60. The apparatus of claim 56, further comprising means for						
	2	controlling the user item according to the user item control command.						
The first control of the first	1	61. The apparatus of claim 59, wherein the encoding means encodes a						
	2	fourth type of status data in a third data field of the fixed-length data packet.						
Ú	-	Total 17po of Status data in a linea data riora of the since total and pro-						
	1	62. An apparatus for encoding alarm code data, speed data, direction						
	2	data and location data regarding a user item and transmitting these data, the apparatus						
	3	comprising:						
	4	means for encoding the location data in a location data field of a fixed-						
	5	length data packet;						
	6	means for encoding the direction data in a direction data field of the fixed-						
	7	length data packet, and for encoding the alarm code data and the speed data in a						
•	8	combined data field of the fixed-length data packet; and						
	9	means for transmitting the data packet.						
	1	63. The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the fixed-length data packet						
	2	comprises a 15-digit data packet.						
	1	64. The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the location data field						
	2	comprises a 12-digit data field.						
	1	65. The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the combined data field						
	2	comprises a 2-digit data field.						
21329		962-7005						

1	66. The apparatus of claim 62, wherein the combined data field		
2	occupies approximately one byte of the fixed-length data packet.		
1	77. The appearing of plaim 62 further comprising means for receiving		
1	67. The apparatus of claim 62, further comprising means for receiving		
2	a request for at least one of the location data, alarm code data, speed data, direction data		
3	and location data.		
1	68. The apparatus of claim 62, further comprising means for receiving		
2	a user item control command.		
1	CO. The appropriate of claims 69 for their comprising moons for		
1	69. The apparatus of claim 68, further comprising means for		
2	controlling the user item according to the user item control command.		
1	70. An apparatus for automatically providing status data regarding a		
2	user item, the apparatus comprising:		
3	means for receiving a downstream data packet, the downstream data		
4	packet comprising a downstream message code;		
5	means for decoding the downstream message code to determine requested		
6	status data;		
7	means for obtaining at least a portion of the requested status data, the		
8	portion comprising a plurality of data types;		
9	means for encoding the portion in an upstream data packet, the upstream		
10	data packet comprising a plurality of content fields including at least one content field		
11	which comprises a second plurality of data types; and		
12	means for transmitting the upstream data packet.		
1	71. The apparatus of claim 70, wherein the upstream data packet		
1			
2	comprises a fixed-length data packet.		
1	72. The apparatus of claim 70, wherein the upstream data packet		
2	comprises a 15-digit data packet.		
1	73. The apparatus of claim 70, wherein one or more content fields		
2	comprise a location data field.		
_	compile a location and new		

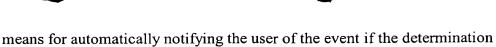


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- means for automatically notifying the user of the event if the determination is that the user should be notified.
- 1 81. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the event corresponds to a condition of the user item.
- 1 82. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the detecting means comprises 2 means for polling the user item.
- 1 83. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the detecting means is 2 responsive to a request for detection.
- 1 84. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the receiving means comprises 2 means for receiving a set of notification instructions input to the automated network 3 operations center.
 - 85. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the set of notification instructions comprises a notification sequence.
 - 86. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the set of notification instructions comprises the selection of at least one of a plurality of notification devices.
- 1 87. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the detecting means comprises 2 means for receiving user item location information from a GPS receiver.
- 1 88. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the automatic notification 2 means comprises means for providing a user item location.
- 1 89. The apparatus of claim 83, further comprising means for 2 automatically performing an action upon the user item in response to the occurrence of 3 the event, wherein the step of automatically performing the action is controlled by the 4 automated network operations center.
- 1 90. The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the receiving means comprises 2 means for receiving a user item control command.

1		91.	The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the content field which
2	comprises a pl	urality o	of event data types occupies approximately one byte of the data
3	packet.		
1		92.	The apparatus of claim 80, wherein the content field which
1			
2	comprises a pi	uranty (of event data types occupies two digits of the data packet.
1		93.	The apparatus of claim 81, wherein the user item is selected from
2	the group cons	isting o	of vehicles, residential property, commercial property, and personal
3	items.		
1		94.	The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the notification instructions are
2	input via a pul		ormation network.
_	input via a pac	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
1		95.	The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the notification instructions are
2	input via a tele	phone.	
1		96.	The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the notification instructions are
1	:		••
2	input via a key	рац сог	rresponding to the telephone.
1		97.	The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the notification instructions are
2	input via a tele	ephone	utilizing voice input and wherein the automated network operations
3	center comprises a voice recognition system.		
1		98.	The apparatus of claim 86, wherein the plurality of notification
2			om the group consisting of facsimile machines, telephones, pagers,
3	electronic mai	l, and a	public information network interface.
1		99.	The apparatus of claim 90, further comprising means for
2	controlling the	user it	em according to the user item control command.
		100	
1		100.	The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the public information network

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is the Internet.